United Nations A/RES/72/261

General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 January 2018

Seventy-second session
Agenda item 136

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 24 December 2017

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/72/681 and A/72/681/Corr.1)*]

72/261. Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 42/211 of 21 December 1987, 45/248 B, section VI, of 21 December 1990, 55/231 of 23 December 2000, 56/253 of 24 December 2001, 58/269 and 58/270 of 23 December 2003, 59/276, section XI, of 23 December 2004, 60/283 of 7 July 2006, 61/263 of 4 April 2007, 62/236 of 22 December 2007, 63/262 of 24 December 2008, 64/243 of 24 December 2009, 65/259 of 24 December 2010, 66/246 of 24 December 2011, 68/246 of 27 December 2013, 70/247 of 23 December 2015 and 71/272 A and 71/274 of 23 December 2016,

Reaffirming also the respective mandates of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Committee for Programme and Coordination in the consideration of the proposed programme budget,

Reaffirming further the role of the General Assembly, through the Fifth Committee, in carrying out a thorough analysis and approval of posts and financial resources, as well as of human resources policies,

Having considered the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019,[1] the tenth progress report of the Secretary-General on the

[1] A/72/6 (Introduction), A/72/6 (Introduction)/Corr.1, A/72/6 (Sect. 1), A/72/6 (Sect. 2), A/72/6 (Sect. 3), A/72/6 (Sect. 4), A/72/6 (Sect. 4)/Corr.1, A/72/6 (Sect. 5), A/72/6 (Sect. 5)/Corr.1, A/72/6 (Sect. 6), A/72/6 (Sect. 7), A/72/6 (Sect. 7)/Corr.1, A/72/6 (Sect. 8), A/72/6 (Sect. 8)/Corr.1, A/72/6 (Sect. 9), A/72/6 (Sect. 10), A/72/6 (Sect. 11), A/72/6 (Sect. 12), A/72/6 (Sect. 12)/Corr.1, A/72/6 (Sect. 14), A/72/6 (Sect. 15), A/72/6 (Sect. 16), A/72/6 (Sect. 17), A/72/6 (Sect. 18), A/72/6 (Sect. 19), A/72/6 (Sect. 20), A/72/6 (Sect. 21), A/72/6 (Sect. 22), A/72/6 (Sect. 23), A/72/6 (Sect. 24), A/72/6 (Sect. 24)/Corr.1, A/72/6 (Sect. 25), A/72/6 (Sect. 26), A/72/6 (Sect. 26)/Corr.1, A/72/6 (Sect. 27), A/72/6 (Sect. 28), A/72/6 (Sect. 29), A/72/6 (Sect. 29A), A/72/6 (Sect. 29B), A/72/6 (Sect. 29C), A/72/6 (Sect. 29C)/Corr.1, A/72/6 (Sect. 29C)/Corr.2, A/72/6 (Sect. 29D), A/72/6 (Sect. 29E), A/72/6 (Sect. 29F), A/72/6 (Sect. 29G), A/72/6 (Sect. 29H), A/72/6 (Sect. 30), A/72/6 (Sect. 31), A/72/6 (Sect. 32), A/72/6 (Sect. 33), A/72/6 (Sect. 33)/Corr.1, A/72/6 (Sect. 34), A/72/6 (Sect. 35), A/72/6 (Sect. 36), A/72/6 (Income Sect. 1), A/72/6 (Income Sect. 2) and A/72/6 (Income Sect. 3).

implementation of projects financed from the Development Account,[2] the report of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee on internal oversight: proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019[3] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[4]

Having also considered chapter II, section A, of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its fifty-seventh session[5] and the report of the Secretary-General on the consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019,[6]

Having further considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on safety and security in the United Nations system[7] as well as the comments of the Secretary-General and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,[8]

1. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and reaffirms the role of the Fifth Committee in carrying out a thorough analysis and approving human and financial resources and policies, with a view to ensuring full, effective and efficient implementation of all mandated programmes and activities and the implementation of policies in this regard;

2. *Also reaffirms* rule 153 of its rules of procedure;

3. *Further reaffirms* the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;[9]

4. *Reaffirms* the established budgetary procedures and methodologies, based on its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211;

5. *Also reaffirms* the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;[10]

6. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as contained in chapter II, section A, of its report;[5]

7. *Also endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[4] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

8. *Recalls* paragraph 17 of its resolution 64/243, notes the practice of incremental budgeting where only new requirements are justified, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that whenever new proposals lead to requests for additional resources, sufficient efforts are made to meet the new requirements using existing resources;

9. *Stresses* that the contingency fund should be used in strict accordance with the provisions of paragraph 9 of annex I to resolution 41/213 and paragraph 3 of section C of the annex to resolution 42/211;

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[2] A/72/92 and A/72/92/Corr.1.

[3] A/72/85.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (A/72/7 and A/72/7/Corr.1).

[5] Ibid., *Supplement No. 16* (A/72/16).

[6] A/72/84, A/72/84/Corr.1, A/72/84/Corr.2 and A/72/84/Add.1.

[7] A/72/118.

[8] A/72/118/Add.1.

[9] ST/SGB/2016/6.

[10] ST/SGB/2013/4.

10. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to disseminate, as supplementary information, budgetary tables in spreadsheet format for ease of analysis and review;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit reports to the Advisory Committee no later than two weeks in advance of its scheduled consideration of items so as to ensure that the Committee will, in turn, provide its advice to the General Assembly no later than two weeks in advance of formal introduction of an item, with an exception for revised estimates and programme budget implications arising in the course of the main part of the session of the Assembly;

12. *Decides* that a vacancy rate of 11.5 per cent for staff in the Professional and higher categories and of 8.7 per cent for staff in the General Service and related categories shall be used as a basis for the calculation of the budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

13. *Also decides* to abolish one P-3 post under section 11, United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development, one P-3 post and one General Service (Other level) post under section 18, Economic and social development in Africa, and one General Service (Other level) post under section 28, Public information, all of which have been vacant for more than two years;

14. *Further decides* that the staffing table for the biennium 2018–2019 shall be as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

Part I
Overall policymaking, direction and coordination

Section 1
Overall policymaking, direction and coordination

15. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

16. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and materials and hospitality by 10 per cent;

17. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

18. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

19. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

20. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

21. *Takes note* of paragraph I.20 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides not to establish one D-1 (Principal Officer) post in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General;

22. *Also takes note* of paragraph I.33 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

23. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources in the Office of the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva by 49,600 United States dollars;

Section 2
General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management

24. *Welcomes* the reorganization of the Translation Services;

25. *Takes note* of paragraph I.40 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and approves the establishment of one P-3 (Communication Officer) post under Executive direction and management;

26. *Decides* not to establish one post of Programme Management Officer (P-3) under subprogramme 2, under Conference management, Geneva;

27. *Reaffirms* paragraph 95 of its resolution 71/262 of 23 December 2016, and decides to reclassify two P-3 (Translator) posts to two P-4 (Translator) posts in the Chinese Translation Service, Documentation services, New York;

28. *Takes note* of paragraph I.57 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

29. *Decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and materials and hospitality by 10 per cent;

30. *Also decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

31. *Further decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

32. *Decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

33. *Also decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

34. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

Part II
Political affairs

Section 3
Political affairs

35. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

36. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and materials and hospitality by 10 per cent;

37. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

38. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

39. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

40. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

41. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

Section 4
Disarmament

42. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

43. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and materials and hospitality by 10 per cent;

44. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

45. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

46. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

47. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

48. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

49. *Takes note* of paragraph II.19 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

50. *Recalls* paragraph II.24 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to continue the current practice of funding one D-2 post of Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research through the related subvention approved in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

51. *Approves* the request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research of 750,000 dollars (before recosting) from the regular budget of the United Nations, for which provision has already been included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

Section 5
Peacekeeping operations

52. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

53. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and materials and hospitality by 10 per cent;

54. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

55. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

56. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

57. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

58. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

59. *Takes note* of paragraph II.31 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides not to establish two new posts (one Information Analyst (P-3) and one Fixed Asset Management Officer (Field Service));

60. *Also takes note* of paragraph II.35 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

61. *Decides* to abolish one General Service post at the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization;

62. *Recalls* paragraph II.40 of the report of the Advisory Committee, notes the high vehicle ratios, and decides not to approve the proposed resources for the acquisition of vehicles for the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization;

Section 6
Peaceful uses of outer space

63. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

64. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and materials and hospitality by 10 per cent;

65. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

66. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

67. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

68. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

69. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

Part III
International justice and law

Section 7
International Court of Justice

70. *Recalls* paragraph III.17 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments not to exceed 1 million dollars for the implementation of an enterprise resource planning system during the biennium 2018–2019;

71. *Takes note* of paragraph III.25 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

72. *Decides* to reduce resources for programme support by 200,000 dollars;

Section 8
Legal affairs

73. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

74. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and materials and hospitality by 10 per cent;

75. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

76. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

77. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

78. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

79. *Decides* not to approve the proposed conversion of two posts (1 P-3 and 1 General Service (Other level)) from general temporary assistance positions

Part IV
International cooperation for development

Section 9
Economic and social affairs

80. *Decides* to retain the post of Social Affairs Officer (P-3) in the secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;

Section 10
Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

81. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

82. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and materials and hospitality by 10 per cent;

83. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

84. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

85. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

86 *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

87. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

88. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[11] and the complimentary role of South-South cooperation in accelerating progress towards its full implementation, and in this regard decides to reclassify one P-4 (Programme Officer) post under the Least Developed Countries Unit as a P-5 (Senior Programme Officer) post under the Least Developed Countries Unit to strengthen South-South cooperation in development financing for the least developed countries;

89. *Reaffirms* the importance of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[12] the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[13] and other intergovernmentally agreed outcomes, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to support small island developing States through the Small Island Developing States Unit in the Department for Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing States, and Small Island Developing States;

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[11] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[12] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[13] Resolution 70/1.

Section 11
United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

90. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

91. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and materials and hospitality by 10 per cent;

92. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

93. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

94. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

95. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

96. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

Section 12
Trade and development

97. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

98. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and materials and hospitality by 10 per cent;

99. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

100. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

101. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

102. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

103. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

Section 14
Environment

104. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

105. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and material and hospitality by 10 per cent;

106. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

107. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

108. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

109. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

110. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce the resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

Section 15
Human settlements

111. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

112. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and materials and hospitality by 10 per cent;

113. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

114. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

115. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

116. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

117. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

Section 16
International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice

118. *Decides* to approve the proposed establishment of three posts of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer (1 P-4 and 2 P-3) to support the work of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

119. *Also decides* to re-establish the practice of publishing the World Drug Report in all six official languages from regular budget funds starting in the biennium 2018–2019;

Section 17
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)

120. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

121. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and materials and hospitality by 10 per cent;

122. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

123. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

124. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

125. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

126. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

Part VI
Human rights and humanitarian affairs

Section 24
Human rights

127. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

128. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and material and hospitality by 10 per cent;

129. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

130. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

131. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

132. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

133. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

134. *Takes note* of paragraph VI.10 of the report of the Advisory Committee, reaffirms its resolution 68/268 of 9 April 2014, and decides to establish 5 positions in lieu of the 11 posts proposed by the Secretary-General;

Section 25
International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees

135. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

136. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and material and hospitality by 10 per cent;

137. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

138. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

139. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

140. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

141. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

142. *Takes note* of paragraph VI.29 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

Section 26
Palestine refugees

143. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

144. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and materials and hospitality by 10 per cent;

145. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

146. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

147. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

148. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

149. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

Section 27
Humanitarian assistance

150. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

151. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and material and hospitality by 10 per cent;

152. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

153. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

154. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

155. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

156. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

157. *Decides* to approve 3,750,000 dollars for the activities of the United Nations Monitoring Mechanism for the Syrian Arab Republic for 2018;

Part VII
Public information

Section 28
Public information

158. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

159. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and materials and hospitality by 10 per cent;

160. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

161. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

162. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

163. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

164. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

165. *Welcomes* the intention of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to collaborate with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat to further coordinate efforts to seek efficiencies in the translation of documents and web content, recognizes efforts by the Department of Public Information to improve compliance with accessibility standards as well as maintaining and improving the quality and accuracy of official meeting coverage and press releases, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the qualitative and quantitative benefits of those efforts in the context of the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

166. *Decides* not to abolish one P-5 (Director) post under Strategic communications services, within existing resources;

167. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the two posts from the Kiswahili Radio Unit and the two posts from the Portuguese Radio Unit are deployed for the purposes originally approved;

168. *Decides* not to approve 18 new posts requested by the Department of Public Information;

169. *Also decides* to reduce resources for the Department of Public Information by 2.5 per cent;

Part VIII
Common support services

Section 29
Management and support services

170. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

171. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and materials and hospitality by 10 per cent;

172. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

173. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

174. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

175. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

176. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

177. *Also recalls* paragraph VIII.8 of the report of the Advisory Committee, regrets that unbudgeted expenditures have been incurred without the approval of the General Assembly, requests the Secretary-General to make all efforts to avoid recurrence, calls upon the Secretary-General to lead by example, and in this regard decides to reduce post and non-post resources under sections 29C, 29D and 29E by 5 per cent;

Section 29C
Office of Human Resources Management

178. *Takes note* of paragraph VIII.43 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to approve one P-5 (Mental Health Officer) post under Medical services, in New York;

Part IX
Internal oversight

Section 30
Internal oversight

179. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

180. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and material and hospitality by 10 per cent;

181. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

182. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

183. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

184. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

185. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

Part X
Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses

Section 31
Jointly financed administrative activities

186. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

187. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and material and hospitality by 10 per cent;

188. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

189. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

190. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

191. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

Section 32
Special expenses

192. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

193. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and material and hospitality by 10 per cent;

194. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

195. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

196. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

197. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

198. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

Part XI
Capital expenditures

Section 33
Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance

199. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

200. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and material and hospitality by 10 per cent;

201. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

202. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

203. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

204. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

205. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

206. *Decides* to reduce the appropriation by 6,581,200 dollars under section 33, and requests the Secretary-General to reprioritize projects accordingly;

Part XII
Safety and security

Section 34
Safety and security

207. *Decides* to reduce resources for contractual services by 10 per cent;

208. *Also decides* to reduce resources for furniture and equipment, consultants, supplies and materials and hospitality by 10 per cent;

209. *Further decides* to reduce resources for general operating expenditures and other staff costs by 5 per cent;

210. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources for information technology by 10 per cent;

211. *Also decides* to reduce resources for experts by 15 per cent;

212. *Further decides* to reduce resources for the travel of representatives by 25 per cent;

213. *Recalls* paragraphs II.41, II.50, IV.107, VIII.31 and VIII.48 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides instead to reduce resources for the travel of staff by 10 per cent;

214. *Takes note* of paragraph XII.13 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to appropriate 100,000 dollars for consultants under Executive direction and management.

76th plenary meeting
24 December 2017

Annex

Staffing table for the biennium 2018–2019

Category	*Number of posts*
Professional and higher	
Deputy Secretary-General	1
Under-Secretary-General	36
Assistant Secretary-General	30
D-2	114
D-1	294
P-5	886
P-4/3	2 934
P-2/1	512
Subtotal	**4 807**
General Service and related	
Principal level	275
Other level	2 374
Subtotal	**2 649**
Security Service	307
Local level	1 909
Field Service	107
National Professional Officer	84
Trades and Crafts	96
Subtotal	**2 503**
Total	**9 959**